I claim:

1. A method for identifying patent licensing targets, comprising:

identifying a first entity;

identifying one or more classes in which the first entity has patent assets;

5   identifying or not a second entity as a licensing target in function of a determination of patent assets the second entity has in the one or more classes.

2. The method of claim 1, wherein the method is performed in a networked computing environment.

3. The method of claim 1, wherein the third identifying step includes

10   identifying or not the second entity as a licensing target in function of whether or not, respectively, the second entity has patent assets in the one or more classes.

4. The method of claim 1, wherein the third identifying step includes identifying or not the second entity as a licensing target in function of whether or not, respectively, the second entity has at least a user determined threshold of

15   patent assets in the one or more classes.

5. The method of claim 1, wherein the first and second entities include respective families of affiliated companies.

6. A method for identifying patent licensing targets, comprising:

identifying a first entity and an overlap threshold; and

20   identifying or not a second entity as a licensing target in function of the result of a comparison of an overlap factor with the overlap threshold, wherein the overlap factor is calculated in function of technological overlap between patent assets of the first entity and patent assets of the second entity.

7.   The method of claim 6, wherein the technological overlap is defined in function of the number of patents owned by the second entity having a patent classification common to a patent owned by the first entity.

8.   The method of claim 6, wherein the technological overlap is defined
5   in function of the percentage of patents owned by the second entity having a patent classification common to a patent owned by the first entity.

9.   A method for identifying patent licensing targets, comprising:

identifying a first entity; and

identifying or not a second entity as a licensing target in function of a
10   comparison of patent assets of the first entity and patent assets of the second entity for technological overlap.

10.   The method of claim 9, wherein the method is performed in a networked computing environment.

11.   The method of claim 9, wherein the second entity is identified as a
15   licensing target if the comparison indicates at least a predetermined threshold of technological overlap, and is not identified as a licensing target if the comparison indicates less than the predetermined threshold of technological overlap, wherein the predetermined threshold is user determinable.

12.   A method for identifying patent licensing targets, comprising:
20   identifying a first entity;

comparing in a first instance patent assets of the first entity and patent assets of a second entity for first technological overlap;

identifying or not the second entity as a candidate licensing target in function of the result of the comparison in the first instance;

comparing in a second instance patent assets of the first entity and patent assets of the second entity for second technological overlap; and

5   identifying or not the second entity as a qualified licensing target in function of the result of the comparison in the second instance.

13.   The method of claim 12, wherein the second technological overlap is greater than the first technological overlap.

14.   The method of claim 12, wherein the first entity includes a family of

10   affiliated companies.

15.   The method of claim 12, wherein the second entity includes a family of affiliated companies.

16.   A networked computing system for identifying patent licensing targets, comprising:

15   an end-user station having a user interface, for interacting with a user, and a network interface, for interacting with a network,

wherein the end-user station interacts with the network to identify a licensing target in response to identification of a licensing entity from an interaction involving the user.

20   17.   The system of claim 16, wherein an identity of the licensing target is output on the user interface.

18. The system of claim 16, wherein the end-user station further interacts with the network to determine patent license fee data in response to the identification of the licensing target.

19. The system of claim 16, wherein identification of the licensing entity further involves an interaction with the network.

20. The system of claim 16, wherein a plurality of licensing targets are identified in response to identification of the licensing entity from the interaction involving the user.